IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Ricardo BLANK et al. Confirmation No.: 7089

Application No.: 10/701.698 Group Art Unit: 3761

Filing Date: November 5, 2003 Examiner: Michael G. Bogart

For: CONNECTOR DEVICE Attorney Docket No.: 88265-08496

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 25, 2008, and with the request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 filed simultaneously herewith, Applicants respectfully submit this paper comprising the following parts:

Listing of Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Should any fees be required for processing this response, please charge them to Winston & Strawn LLP Deposit Account No. 50-1814.